

REQUEST**FOR****CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

MAR 26 2004

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number	09/703,909
Filing Date	November 1, 2000
Confirmation Number	3199
First Named Inventor	Todd P. Guay
Group Art Unit	2177
Examiner Name	Khanh B. Pham
Attorney Docket Number	1958.1031-000

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice*, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); *Interim Rule*, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**a. ☐ Previously submittedi. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on ☐.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ☐.iii. ☐ Other -- ☐.b. ☐ Please do not enter the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on ☐.c. ☒ Enclosedi. ☒ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☒ Petition for Extension of Time - three months - with copyv. ☐ Other -- ☐.**RECEIVED****MAR 30 2004**

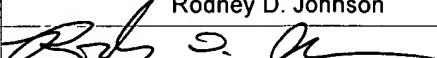
Technology Center 2100

2. **Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of ☐ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other -- ☐.3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR §1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR §1.114 when the RCE is filed.a. ☒ A check is enclosed for the following fees in the total amount of \$1720

OR

☐ Authorization is granted to charge the following fees in the total amount of \$☐ to Deposit Account No. 08-0380. A copy of this document is enclosed for accounting purposes

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☐ Amendment Feeiv. ☐ Other -- ☐.b. ☒ Authorization is hereby granted to charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 08-0380. A copy of this document is enclosed for accounting purposes.**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED**

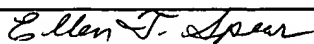
Name (Print/Type)	Rodney D. Johnson	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	36,558
Signature		Date	March 24, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

Name (Print/Type)	Ellen T. Spear
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Signature



Date

03/24/04